

AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A data processor for transferring a data stream, ~~which is stored on a storage medium,~~ to a connected device, the data stream including ~~attribute information that specifies the format of the data stream, video data, audio data and management data to control playback of the video data and audio data and being stored in a first format on a storage medium,~~ the data processor comprising:

an interface section, which communicates with the device to acquire format information about a second format that is compatible with the device;

a reading section for reading ~~the attribute information and~~ the data stream from the storage medium;

a reading control section for determining, based on ~~the attribute information and~~ the format information, whether or not the format of the data stream needs to be converted; and

a converting section for outputting the data stream either after having converted the first format of the data stream into ~~the one specified by the format information~~ the second format or without converting the format of the data stream as determined by the reading control section,

wherein the interface section transmits the data stream, which has been output from the converting section, to the device.

2. (Currently amended) The data processor of claim 1, wherein  
~~in the data stream, the attribute information, as well as copied management information, is stored on the storage medium, and wherein the reading section reads the management information and extracts attribute information the converting section changes the management data of the data stream into management data that is compatible with the second format, thereby converting the first format of the data stream into the second format.~~

3. (Currently amended) The data processor of claim ~~12~~, wherein  
~~the reading section reads the converting section converts the format of the data stream into the second format without altering the video data and the audio data themselves and extracts the attribute information.~~

4. (Original) The data processor of claim 1, wherein the reading section changes the read rates of the data stream depending on whether or not the format needs to be converted.

5. (Original) The data processor of claim 4, wherein the reading section reads the data stream at a first rate if the format needs to be converted, but reads the data stream at a second rate, which is higher than the first rate, if the format need not be converted.

6. (Currently amended) A data processing method to be carried out by a data processor for transferring a data stream, ~~which is stored on a storage medium,~~ to a device that is connected to the data processor, the data stream including ~~attribute information that specifies the format of the data stream,~~ video data, audio data and management data to control playback of the video data and audio data and being stored in a first format on a storage medium, the method comprising the steps of:

communicating with the device to acquire format information about a second format that is compatible with the device;

reading ~~the attribute information~~ and the data stream from the storage medium;

determining, based on ~~the attribute information~~ and the format information, whether or not the format of the data stream needs to be converted; and

outputting and transmitting the data stream to the device either after having converted the first format of the data stream into ~~the one specified by the format information~~ the second format or without converting the format of the data stream, in accordance with the result of the step of determining.

7. (Currently amended) The data processing method of claim 6, wherein ~~in the data stream, the attribute information, as well as copied management information, is stored on the storage medium,~~ and

~~wherein the step of reading includes reading the management information and extracting the attribute information the step of outputting includes changing the management data of the data stream into management data that is compatible with the second format, thereby converting the first format of the data stream into the second format.~~

8. (Currently amended) The data processing method of claim 6~~7~~, wherein the step of ~~reading~~ outputting includes ~~reading~~ converting the format of the data stream into the second format without altering the video data and the audio data themselves and extracting the attribute information.

9. (Original) The data processing method of claim 6, wherein the step of reading includes changing the read rates of the data stream depending on whether or not the format needs to be converted.

10. (Original) The data processing method of claim 9, wherein the step of reading includes reading the data stream at a first rate if the format needs to be converted, but reading the data stream at a second rate, which is higher than the first rate, if the format need not be converted.